GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3057
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2017
Seasonal Agricultural Operation Loan to Farmers
Chandrappa Shri B.N.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched any scheme to provide Seasonal Agricultural Operation loans to farmers and if so, the details and the salient features thereof;

(b) the details of loan disbursed under the scheme since the inception of the scheme, State-wise; and

(c) the beneficiaries under the scheme till date since the inception of the scheme State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): No new scheme has been launched to provide Seasonal Agricultural Operation loans to farmers. The Government however, provides short term crop loans to farmers for Seasonal Agricultural Operations including through Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) through Schedule Commercial Banks (Public Sector Banks and Private Commercial Banks), Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks. Over the years several modalities have been introduced to ensure proper availability of credit which inter-alia include provision of Interest Subvention to make short-term crop loans upto Rs.3 lakh available to farmers at affordable interest rate of 7% per annum and in case of prompt repayment, the same gets reduced to 4%; Provision of Post-harvest loans at an interest rate of 7% per annum for a period of upto six months against Negotiable Warehouse Receipts (NWRs) provided by banks to Small Farmers/Marginal Farmers having KCC, so as to discourage distress sale of produce; The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme which enables the farmers to purchase agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, etc. and draw cash to satisfy their consumption needs and has since been simplified through provision of ATM enabled debit card to facilitate multiple withdrawals within the limit, etc; Waiver of margin/security requirements of agricultural loans upto Rs.1,00,000/-.

(b) & (c): A statement showing the flow of Ground Level Credit (GLC) for Agriculture including Seasonal Agricultural Operation loans, State-wise, from 2008-09 to 2015-16 is attached at Annexure.